

REMARKS

This submission with RCE is in response to the Final Action mailed April 29, 2009.

Amendments to the claims

Claims 1-25 were pending in the application. Claims 1-3, 9-11, 13-14, 20 and 24-25 stand rejected. Claims 4-8, 12, 15-16, 18-19 and 21-23 stand patentable. Claim 17 is cancelled. Claim 1 is amended herein based on paragraph [0058] of the description as originally filed and the previous claim 7. Claim 14 is amended according to the amended claim 1. Further, the term “and” in claim 14 line 6 is amended to be “or”, which is based on paragraphs [0059] and [0060] of the description as originally filed. Claims 24 and 25 are adapted to the currently amended claims 1 and 14 respectively. Adaptation revisions have been made to dependent claims. No new matter has been added with these amendments. All amendments made herein are being made without prejudice.

Claim rejections -35 USC § 102

Claims 1, 13-14, 24-25 were rejected under 35 USC § 102 as being anticipated by Jinsong (CN02118792). Applicants respectfully submit that the newly added technical features amended to the claims are not disclosed by Jinsong. Therefore, the currently amended claim 1 is patentable under 35 USC § 102 over Jinsong.

Since the master conference management system accomplishes cascading among the master MCU and the slave MCUs, the videoconference can be hold through the master MCU, thus network bandwidth can be saved in a videoconference system. Applicant respectfully submits that a skilled person with the teaching of Jinsong can not conceive the currently amended claim 1. Hence, the currently amended claim 1 is also patentable under 35 USC § 103 over Jinsong.

Independent claims 14, 24 and 25 should be considered as being patentable under 35 USC § 103 over Jinsong for the reasons given above.

Dependent claim 13 is respectfully submitted to be patentable at least by virtue of its dependency on claim 1.

Claim rejections -35 USC § 103

Claims 2-3 were rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over Jinsong and Roni (WO 01/35655). Roni fails to disclose the newly added technical features of claim 1 which lead to the patentability of independent claim 1 as discussed above. Dependent claims 2-3 are respectfully submitted to be patentable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1.

Claims 9-11 and 20 were rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over Jinsong and Roni. Dependent claims 9-11 and 20 are respectfully submitted to be patentable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1 or 14.

Allowable subject matter

The Examiner affirms the patentability of the subject matter of claims 4-6, 8, 12, 15-16, 18-19 and 21-23.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 4-6, 8, 12, 15-16, 18-19 and 21-23 are allowable by virtue of their dependency on claim 1 or 14 as well as the additional limitations recited by each of these claims.

* * * * *

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this RCE is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this document is being transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office via electronic filing.

July 21, 2009

(Date of Transmission)

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